

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application and stand rejected.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and the remarks hereinbelow.

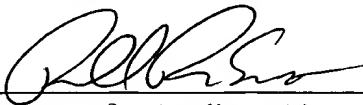
Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. 103:

Claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shah et al. (6,088,648), Babin et al. (5,945,985), and Torres et al. (6,608,650).

Claims 1, 7, 16 and 22 have been cancelled. Dependent claims 2, 8, 9, 10, 17 and 23, 24, and 25 have been amended and now stand in independent form. Claims 3, 4 and 5 have been amended to depend upon claim 2 and claims 18, 19, 20, 26, 27, and 28 now depend upon claim 17. The claims have been amended consistent with an interview with the Examiner on June 23, 2004. As amended the claims make explicit that it is possible to navigate a database of pictures by presenting different levels of geographical metaphors with different levels of geographical specificity. Each level of geographic specificity has picture icons thereon indicating groups of pictures captured at a specific location within the geographic metaphor shown at that level. Activation of the picture icons causes a different level of display to be generated. An additional layer generates a display level that presents digital pictures of a group when a user activates picture icons in a display level showing a most specific level of metaphor, e.g. a second, third, fourth or fifth level of specificity. The art of record does not show this. During an interview of June 23, 2004, it has been indicated that claims amended to make these features explicit would receive favorable consideration.

It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that in view of the above amendments and remarks, that this application is now in condition for allowance, prompt notice of which is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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